

Remarks

Claims 1-24 are pending in the instant application. Independent claims 1 and 15 are currently amended.

Oath/Declaration

The Examiner noted that an oath or declaration did not include a notary's signature, or that the notary's signature was in the wrong place. Applicants thank the Examiner for the clarifying phone call on February 26. Applicants understand that the statement was made in error and that no action on their part need be taken.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicants thank the Examiner for the suggested change, and have accordingly amended claims 1 and 15 to recite a "computer readable memory." In view of these amendments, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 1-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is directed to nonstatutory subject matter. After amendment, the claims recite a computer program stored on a computer readable memory. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-10 and 14-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,332,143 to Chase ("Chase").

Claims 1 and 15, from which the remainder depend, have been amended to clarify the meaning of the term “lexical impact.” Claims 1 and 15 now recite the limitation, “wherein the lexical impact is determined *independently* of a denotative meaning of the word and *independently* of a contextual meaning of the word.” (Emphasis added.) Chase fails to disclose this limitation.

Lexical impact is an emotional response that can be expected in a reader due to an underlying *associative* meaning of individual words rather than an emotional response that the text words can be expected to have on the reader due to the meaning of the words in context. In contrast, Chase involves analyzing the emotional impact that text can be expected to have on a reader due to the meaning of the words in context rather than the underlying literal meaning of individual words. Indeed, the connotative meaning disclosed in Chase is explicitly a meaning that is *dependent* on the contextual or denotative meaning of each word. (See, e.g., Chase, col. 13, ll. 35-45; col. 11, ll. 15-30; col. 5, ll. 30-66.)

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 11-13 and 23-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chase in view of US Patent No. 6,389,425 (Chase ‘425). Claims 11-13, and 23-24 are patentable over Chase by virtue of their dependence on claims 1 and 15, as described above. Chase ‘425 fails to deficiencies of Chase with respect to claims 1 and 15. Specifically, Chase ‘425 also teaches and suggests analyzing the emotional impact that text can be expected to have on a reader due to the meaning of the words in context. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

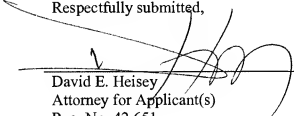
Conclusion

In view of the above, favorable reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-24 is solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejections of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 18-1953 referencing the Atty. Docket No. noted above. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,



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